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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(Attorney Docket No. B68149-014354-0004)

In the Application of:

Rodriguez et al.

Serial No.: 09/656,815

Filed: September 7, 2000

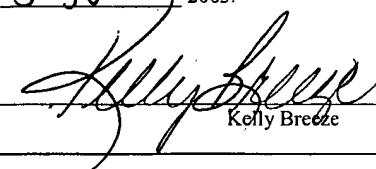
For: **SYSTEM AND APPARATUS FOR
CREDIT TRANSACTION DATA
TRANSMISSION**

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Washington, D.C. 22313-1450

) Group Art Unit: 3624

) Examiner: Shih, Sally

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 Kelly Breeze	

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

In response to the Office Action mailed January 30, 2003 (Paper No. 5), Applicants respectfully submit the following arguments in the above-referenced application. As set forth below, Applicants submit that the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) have been overcome.

In the Claims:

All pending claims are herewith presented for the convenience of the examiner.

Claims 1 through 8 are hereby cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer.

9. (ORIGINAL) An apparatus for transmitting credit transaction data over a communications medium comprising:

a protocol translator receiving the credit transaction data from one or more point of sale systems according to a transmission protocol; and

5 an encryption system coupled to the protocol translator, the encryption system receiving the credit transaction data from the protocol translator and encrypting the credit transaction data.